

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 703

To ensure access to apprenticeships for underrepresented groups, eliminate barriers and ensure completion of apprenticeships, and invest in successful apprenticeship intermediaries.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 2, 2021

Ms. JAYAPAL (for herself, Mr. LEVIN of Michigan, Mrs. HAYES, and Ms. NORTON) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Education and Labor

A BILL

To ensure access to apprenticeships for underrepresented groups, eliminate barriers and ensure completion of apprenticeships, and invest in successful apprenticeship intermediaries.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Apprenticeship Fu-
5 tures for All Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. GRANTS, CONTRACTS, OR COOPERATIVE AGRE-**
2 **MENTS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator of the Office
4 of Apprenticeship of the Department of Labor shall award
5 grants, contracts, or cooperative agreements to eligible en-
6 tities on a competitive basis if the eligible entity is a qual-
7 fied intermediary—

8 (1) to support national industry and equity
9 intermediaries in establishing or expanding sector-
10 based partnerships to support the delivery or expan-
11 sion of programs under the national apprenticeship
12 system to significant scale in the United States—

13 (A) in key sectors, including manufac-
14 turing, information technology, cyber security,
15 health care, insurance and finance, energy, hos-
16 pitality, retail, construction, and other sectors
17 identified by the Administrator as targeted for
18 expansion under the national apprenticeship
19 system; or

20 (B) for nontraditional apprenticeship popu-
21 lations, women, minorities, individuals with dis-
22 abilities, and individuals impacted by the crimi-
23 nal or juvenile justice system; or

24 (2) to serve programs under the national ap-
25 prenticeship system in a local or regional setting.

1 (b) USE OF FUNDS.—An eligible entity applying for
2 any grant activity under this Act—

3 (1) shall use at least 5 percent of the grant
4 funds to provide direct financial assistance to ap-
5 prentices, pre-apprentices, or youth apprentices
6 through emergency grants to support their financial
7 needs to enter, remain enrolled in, and complete
8 such program, such as support for the related costs
9 of supplies and equipment, courses, transportation,
10 child care, and housing; and

11 (2) may use funds for any of the following ac-
12 tivities:

13 (A) To establish or expand partnerships
14 with organizations that provide program partici-
15 pants access to financial planning, mentoring,
16 and supportive services that are necessary to
17 enable an individual to participate in and com-
18 plete a program under the national apprentice-
19 ship system.

20 (B) To conduct outreach and recruitment
21 activities, including assessments of potential
22 participants for, and enrollment of participants
23 in, a program under the national apprenticeship
24 system.

(C) To conduct outreach, engagement, recruitment, and coordination of activities with employers, industry associations, labor and labor-management organizations, qualified intermediaries, education and training providers, State or local workforce agencies, potential sponsors, community-based organizations, communities with high numbers or percentages of nontraditional apprenticeship populations, small- and medium-sized businesses, or rural communities to establish or expand industry or sector partnerships and opportunities under the national apprenticeship system.

(D) To carry out grant requirements, including program evaluation and reporting requirements.

(E) To conduct any activities as described in the application that would advance the purposes of the grant.

(c) DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:

(1) ELIGIBLE ENTITY.—

(A) IN GENERAL.—The term “eligible entity” means—

(i) a program sponsor;

(i) connecting employers to programs under the national apprenticeship system;

18 (iv) providing professional development activities such as training to mentors;
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21 (v) connecting students or workers to
22 programs under the national apprentice-
23 ship system;

24 (vi) developing and providing person-
25 alized program participant supports, in-

1 cluding by partnering with organizations to
2 provide access to or referrals for supportive
3 services and financial advising;

4 (vii) providing services, resources, and
5 supports for development, delivery, expansion,
6 or improvement of programs under
7 the national apprenticeship system; or
8 (viii) serving as a program sponsor.

9 (B) PARTNERSHIPS.—The partnerships de-
10 scribed in subparagraph (A) means partner-
11 ships among entities involved in programs
12 under the national apprenticeship system, in-
13 cluding—

14 (i) industry or sector partnerships;
15 (ii) partnerships among employers,
16 joint labor-management organizations,
17 labor organizations, community-based org-
18 ganizations, industry associations, State or
19 local workforce development boards, edu-
20 cation and training providers, social service
21 organizations, economic development orga-
22 nizations, Indian Tribes or Tribal organi-
23 zations, one-stop operators, or one-stop
24 partners, in the State workforce develop-
25 ment system; or

